



Northwood-Kensett Community School District

VIKING DISPATCH

April 2022

Creating healthy, educated, ethical and productive citizens.

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Northwood, IA 50459

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(641) 324-2021 (Superintendent)

(641) 324-2142 (High School)

Administration

Michael R. Crozier, Superintendent

Brian Costello, Elementary Principal

Keith Fritz, Secondary Principal

School Board Members

Larry Hovey

Susan Kliment

Cindy Pangburn

Bradley Christianson

John Anderson

From the Desk of Mr. Costello

Preschool Learning Night:

Our annual Pre-K Learning night for students in the four-year-old program will be held on Thursday, April 7. We are planning on holding two sessions that evening. If your last night begins with A-K your time will be from 5:00-5:45. If you last name begins with L-Z your time will be from 6:00-6:45.

Preschool Registration:

On April 27 we will hold our preschool registration for the 2022-2023 school year. The hours will be 8:30-11:30 and 1-6. Any children three years old by September 15 are eligible for our three-year old program. Registration will take place in the preschool room. Please enter at the exterior preschool door on the north side of the building. If you have questions, please call the office at 324-1127.

Kindergarten Orientation:

This letter is a reminder that our incoming kindergarteners are invited to spend part of the day with us on Friday, May 6th from 8:30-1:00. The classroom teachers and preschool teachers will team up to acquaint students with the classrooms and kindergarten routine. Plan on your children eating lunch with us. Remember, transportation will not be provided.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone on the above mentioned dates. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Costello at 324-1127.

From the Desk of Mr. Crozier, Superintendent of Schools

From the Desk of Mr. Crozier

After much anticipation and excitement, the Viking Activity Center will open this summer!

A cornerstone of the N-K school district lies in its commitment to students and community as a whole. We are incredibly proud to introduce this new climate-controlled indoor facility to provide athletic, fitness, recreational, and community experiences that encourage active and healthy lifestyles. The best part is it's for EVERYONE in our local communities!

The Viking Activity Center contains 38,554 square feet of athletic/fitness, recreation, and community meeting spaces across two levels. The center will fulfill space needs and ease scheduling conflicts for N-K student physical education, athletics, and youth/community fitness and athletics.

The vision for the center easily grew to become a community space for ALL ages to experience, and to encourage and support varied healthy lifestyle journeys! An exciting addition to the center is the Multi-Purpose Community Room and kitchenette, available to anyone in local communities for gatherings, meetings, celebrations, or educational programs.

To ensure effective oversight of the facility and delivery of safe, family-friendly facilities and programming, year-round membership support and facility rentals are crucial. We currently offer a variety of memberships, or a daily pass, all which provide access to the facility and includes:

- Indoor Track (Approx. 11 laps = 1 mile)
- 2 Full Length Basketball Courts (with Volleyball Standards Available)
- Weight Lifting Area
- Cardio Fitness Area (Treadmills, Stationary Bikes, Elliptical Machines)
- Wrestling Room
- Men's & Women's Locker Rooms for community use (showers available)
- Synergy Physical Therapy consultation/appointments
- 30x40 Multi-Purpose Community Room with attached Kitchenette
(additional rental fee applies)
- Staffed front reception desk

Membership Type	Rate
Family (Age 19 or older + 1 or more in same household)	\$400.00
Individual (Age 19 or older)	\$250.00
Student (9 th – 12 th grade)	\$80.00
College Student (Currently enrolled, college ID required)	\$120.00
Senior Individual (Age 60+)	\$125.00
Senior Couple (One person must be 60+)	\$200.00
Day Pass	\$10.00

~Youth younger than 9th grade must be directly supervised by an adult (age 19 or older).

From the Desk of Mr. Keith Fritz, Jr. Sr. H.S. Principal

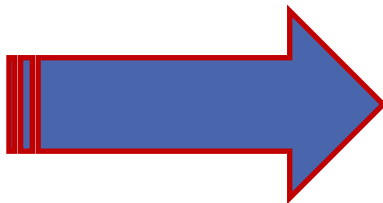
Spring has sprung, and it is nice to be out from under the dark shadow of winter's cold and back into the bright green days of warmer weather and spring sports, Prom, and graduation.

As we move into the last quarter of the school year, I want to make note of a variety of *spring things*:

- With the finalization of the construction of the Viking Activity Center, there will be changes again in traffic routes, parking patterns, and bus activity around the front of the building. I will send more information about that directly to families when the time comes.

We are fortunate to distribute hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in scholarships. If you're the parent of a senior, it becomes critical to read your emails from Mrs. Hansen and/or the school (as should your senior!), so you don't miss out on an important deadline or other requirement.

- If you are the parent of a current 5th or 6th grader, I want you to know that we are planning at least two opportunities for you and your student to become familiar with their new middle school. First, this May, our counselors and some of our 7-12 students will take your student on a tour of the secondary building, and talk with them about what to expect when they start classes this August. Then, in August, we'll have opportunities for the families of middle school students to become familiar with the building, and to learn what their child's day-to-day middle school experience will look like.




The Northwood- Kensett CSD FCCLA Chapter is sponsoring a blood drive. Details are provided on the poster.

Consider giving the gift of life on Friday, May 6th.

Details are provided on the poster to the right.

Please call the school to
schedule an appointment.
>>>>>>>>>>>

 a blood donor


**NORTHWOOD-KENSETT
HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVE**


High School Gymnasium
704 7th St. N | Northwood


Friday, May 6, 2022
8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Things to remember:

- A form of identification
- Parental Permission Slip
- Increase water intake the day before and day of your donation
- Eat a good hearty meal 1 hr. prior to donating



APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED 

 **LifeServe**
BLOOD CENTER

YOUR BLOOD. YOUR HOSPITAL. YOUR NEIGHBORS.

News from Jordan Reindl, Athletic Director!**Call out for Community Volunteers:**

With spring right around the corner, it is time to start thinking about our upcoming track season. We are scheduled to host three track meets this spring and there is a good chance we will be hosting the State Qualifying Meet, making the total 4 meets.

It takes many volunteers to run a successful track meet, and even more when you're hosting a conference and state qualifying meet. If you are interested in helping out at the track meets we will be hosting this spring, please contact me. I can be contacted either by email at jreindl@nkvikings.com or on my cell phone (641) 390-0959. If you have helped out in the past at our track meets, first, thank you, and I will be contacting you soon. If you have not helped out before but would like to this year, please get ahold of me.

Below is a list of our home track meets and dates:

Friday, April 22 - Viking Girls Relays

Monday, April 25 - Viking Boys Relays

Tuesday, May 3 - Jack McMullen JH Co-Ed Relays

Thursday, May 12 - State Qualifying Meet ??



GO VIKINGS

It is the policy of the Northwood-Kensett Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Keith Fritz Secondary Principal, 704 7th St. N., Northwood, IA 50459, Phone 641-324-2021 x101, kfritz@nkvikings.com who has been designated as the district's Equity Coordinator and to coordinate the school district's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504, and Iowa Code Section 280.3.

For issues with Section 504 Contact Brian Costello Elementary Principal, 504 Coordinator, 1200 First Avenue North, Northwood, IA 50459, Phone 641-324-2021 x201, bcostello@nkvikings.com



NOTES FROM THE PODIUM

UPCOMING EVENTS | NORTHWOOD-KENSETT BANDS | STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS & HONORS

Upcoming Events

HS State Solo & Ens. Festival:

Saturday, April 9th @ Britt

JH Solo & Ensemble Festival:

Wednesday, April 20th @ N-K

During the school day

6th Grade Solo Festival:

Thursday, April 21st @ N-K

During the school day

River City Honor Band:

(Select 5th & 6th Grade students)

Saturday, April 23rd

@ Mason City

HS State Large Group Fest.:

Friday, May 6th @ Algona

HS Fine Arts Awards Concert:

Tuesday, May 10th

7:00 pm - High School Gym

HS Graduation:

Sunday, May 15th

1:30 pm - High School Gym

5-6, 7-8 Band & Vocal Concerts:

Tuesday, May 17th, HS Gym

6:00 pm - 5th & 6th

7:30 pm - 7th & 8th

North Iowa Band Festival:

Saturday, May 28th

@ Mason City

Memorial Day Services:

Monday, May 30th

@ Kensett & Northwood

Northwood-Kensett Bands

It's hard to believe that we are already in the final quarter of the school year! After two years of cancelled / scaled-down events, it has certainly been an eventful, *successful* year in the N-K Band Department as things return to "normal."

Just over 100 students in grades 5-12 currently participate in the Northwood-Kensett Band program. This year's 5th Grade Band is actually the largest group of beginners we've had in several years!

The High School Band has class daily, while the 7th/8th Grade Band, 6th Grade Band, and 5th Grade Band meet every other day (2-3 times a week). All Band students also have weekly individual or partner lessons.

Over the course of the year, all of the different ensembles (grades 5-12) typically prepare a combined total of over 30 performances! This includes traditional concerts, pep band, marching band, ceremonies, etc. Best of all, the majority of these performances are FREE! We'd love to share our work with you! Mrs. Koenig and I often say that some of N-K's best kept "secrets" are the artistic and musical talents of our students!

All-State Auditions

Earlier this fall, Kenny Conlin ('24) and Isabella Hoch ('22) prepared auditions for the 75th Annual Iowa All-State Band. Bella and Kenny prepared two challenging etudes, a solo excerpt, all 12 major scales, as well as the chromatic scale. They both showed tremendous growth throughout the audition process!



Isabella Hoch & Kenny Conlin



(back row, L-R): Jon Meksi ('22), Thomas Block ('22), Kenny Conlin ('24), Eli Mix ('22)
 (front row, L-R): Emma Davidson ('22), Isabella Hoch ('22), Ellie Ehrhardt ('23), Christopher Madsen ('24)

Honor Bands

This year, we've had many Northwood-Kensett students selected for *several* honor bands across North Iowa. You can see all of the honor bands and participants listed with the photos on this page.

We have one honor band remaining for our 5th and 6th grade students (not pictured) - the River City Honor Band, which will be held at Lincoln Intermediate School in Mason City later this month. Students selected for the River City Honor Band include: 5th Graders - Madeline Christianson, Harley Logeman, Rylee Schoon, and Avarie Skellenger; 6th Graders - Mia Fierova, True Hackenmiller, Maya Johnson.



(L-R): Weston Willand ('26), Annalisa Coyle ('26), Ashlyn Skellenger ('27)



(L-R): Thomas Block ('22), Kenny Conlin ('24), Isabella Hoch ('22)



(L-R): Kamryn Backhaus ('25), Thomas Block ('22), Kenny Conlin ('24)

Counselor's Corner, Mrs. Amy Hansen

Hello again, Vikings!

It seems too strange to be true, but it's time again for me to work to end the year for our Seniors and other students, and start planning ahead for next year. This includes modifying students' 4-Year plans for next year, Concurrent Enrollment & PSEO registration, orientations for 5th & 6th grade students, transition for 8th grade into 9th grade, and once again finalizing the Master Schedule. With the transition to a middle school model and some new staff members, there will be a fair amount of change to our school building next year.

There will be new Language Arts electives offered next year. Mr. Leo Frost will teach Sports Literature and Mythology, while Mrs. Allison Clark will teach Books to Movies and Horror, Mystery, Fantasy, and Science Fiction.

Because we're adding a new grade level to our building, we are adjusting our physical education offerings: Weightlifting & Personal Wellness are being discontinued to make room for middle school gym, while Mr. Kessel will teach updated Health classes to high school students. The Business department will be adding a computer science & coding class. A lot of thought and effort has been given to make next year's schedule the best it can be for the students in our district. There may be a few more exciting adjustments yet to come!

The 4 Year plan review schedule will come out very soon. Students will each be scheduled for a ten minute time appointment with me to review the four-year plan I have on file to make changes for next year and make sure that they are still "on track" for graduation in four years. I will send notification to families when schedules have been added to JMC and are ready for online review.

We are almost finished with eighth grade's creation of their Four Year Plans in Guidance 8. When all have been submitted and reviewed by me, I will be sending home copies for parents to review and sign. An email confirmation is also an accepted form of approval, especially in times like these!

6th grade's tour of the secondary building has been set for the morning of May 5th, and 5th grade will visit on the morning of May 12th. Look for a separate email with more details coming in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, you can email me at ahansen@nkvikings.com with any questions about the happenings I've discussed.

Counselor's Corner, Ms. Dakota Hansen

Elementary Guidance

As we approach the end of the school year, we are working hard on preparing students for the skills and information that they will need for the next school year.

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade: Students have been working on social skills with Shana Butler. Honesty has been a large focus throughout the month of March. In April they will begin to focus on decision making skills.

3rd Grade: Students are focusing on Mental Health and will be creating an individual self-care plan.

4th Grade: Students are working with Mrs. Butler as they wrap up their unit focusing on the effects of tobacco use.

5th & 6th Grade: Students will be focusing on lessons that will help prepare them for middle school.

Middle School Transitions

Ms. Dakota Hansen has been working with Mrs. Amy Hansen to find ways that will best prepare our 5th and 6th grade students to transition to the Middle School next year. In guidance class, students will be discussing topics such as

- How To: Combination Locks
- How To: Reading your Schedule
- Description of Classes
- Middle School Sports/Clubs

Along with class lessons, students will have the opportunity to go up to the Middle/High School for a tour. At the tour they will be able to ask their older students any questions they may be wondering. 6th graders will go on their tour on the morning of May 5. 5th graders will go on their tour on the morning of May 12. In August students, along with their families, will be able to come back and tour the school again.

Dakota Hansen
Elementary School Counselor
dhansen@nkvikings.com

News from the classroom - Math Club by Mrs. Willert & Ms. Della Vedova

Pie Eating Contest: Each grade was represented



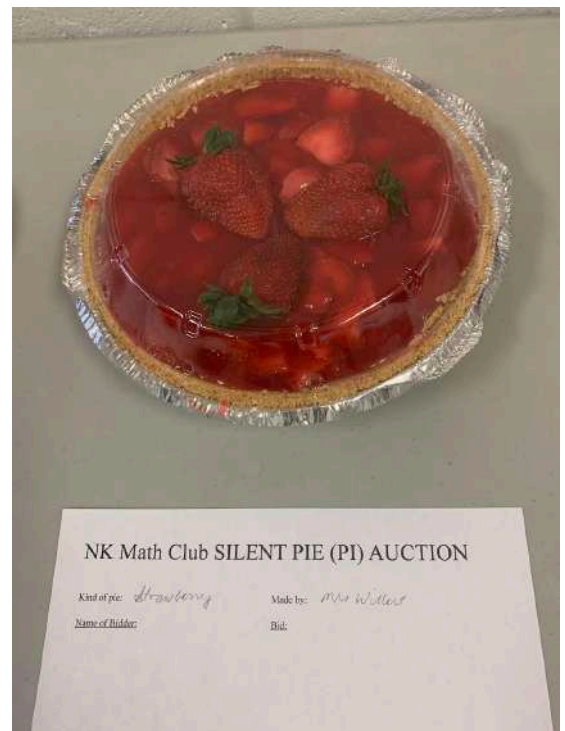
(Above) left to right: Landon Nelson, Alex & Trent Tiedemann (7th 8th 9th grades)



(Above) left to right: Marisa Halbach, Dante Sims, Drake Tiedemann (10th, 11th, 12th grades)



Winner: Drake Tiedemann



The silent pie auction collected \$610.50 toward math club calculator scholarships. Top selling pie was Mrs. Willert's strawberry for \$65 to Mr. Hunt's parents.

News from the classroom - Math Club by Mrs. Lori Willert



Pie A Teacher

Raffle tickets at \$1 a piece were sold to students for a chance to pie a teacher. 20 teachers were on the list. This being Mrs. Willert's last year as Math Club Advisor, went along with allowing one of the senior club members to pie her.

Nick Hanson with Mrs. Butler

De'Angelo Ferguson with Mr. Cotter

Andrew Breitsprecher with Mrs. Willert



NK Math Club Members on floor, left to right: Trent & Drake Tiedemann
front row, left to right: Kale & Aariah Bode, Weston & Wyatt Willand, Chloe Costello,
Jadyn Beland, Ashlynn Skellenger
back row, left to right: Kenny Conlin, Christopher Madsen, Jon Meksi, Teagan
Johnson, Emma Davidson, Andrew Breitsprecher, Hayden Moore, Thomas Block,
Madalynn Hanson, Mrs. Willert

News from the classroom - Math Club by Mrs. Lori Willert



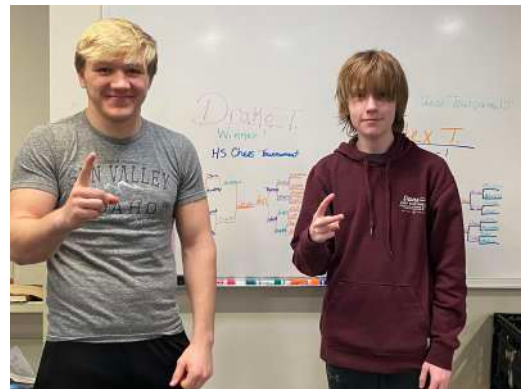
WINTER CHESS TOURNAMENT

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The math club hosted the winter tournament with Tiffany Tiedemann's help. Here is everyone receiving a Tequila's gift card (sponsored by Bolan Storage) at the academic pep rally held March 10.

1st place finishers on left: Drake & Alex
Tiedemann

2nd place finisher on right: Caden Helgeson
& Walt Kelly



PI RECITING CONTEST

[illegible]

Left to right in photo:

Alec Ducommun, Weston Willand, Christopher Madsen, Josiah Kliment
Students recited 37, 33, 26, and 67 digits of pi respectively. The record is still held by Sydney Welch with 188 digits recited in 2021.

March Madness turned into *Book Madness at N-K Elementary!*



In March, the elementary students celebrated reading with many fun and exciting activities.

This year's theme was *Book Madness* while also incorporating Dr. Seuss' birthday. The first week of March focused on creative Book Madness Dress up Days. It was awesome to see how many students participated.



Along with PJ day Friday, "Book Buddies" were incorporated into the day's events. Students of various grades read with other students. It was great to see so many of the students enjoy this special time.



This year each class nominated a book for our "Book Madness Bracket". Every week in March, books were voted upon and moved to the next level. Ask your child which book won. Several classes have taken on the challenge of reading several of the books on the bracket that they haven't already read. Way to go!

Classroom News – NK Elementary Reading Department Pg. 2 of 2



Each class was in a friendly competition to decorate their door. The door could be reading or sports themed.

1st place- Ms. Hemann, 1st grade
 2nd place- Mr. Einertson, 4th grade
 3rd place- Ms. Overdal, 6th grade
 Honorable Mention, Mr. Parks 5th grade

During library time, students participated in many different activities. Kindergarten threw a Dr. Seuss birthday party, and the 3-6th grade students guessed how many fish were in the jar. Students enjoyed receiving prizes during library time as a reward for reading at home and filling out a bingo card. Each student was able to earn a prize for a regular bingo and another prize for a blackout. Each square on the bingo card had students reading in unique ways at home, example: reading under a blanket with a flashlight.

Reading is beneficial for students' academic achievement. When reading is practiced at home students become stronger and more proficient readers. Please take a look at the chart below to show how 20 minutes of reading a day can make a difference.



Classroom News, Mrs. Katcher, Elementary Media

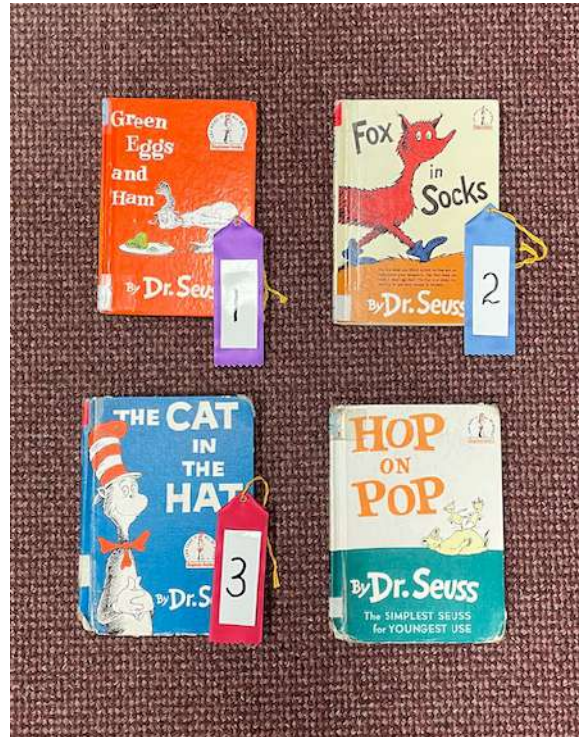
Dr. Seuss Unit comes to An End

As we wrapped up the Dr. Seuss unit, Kindergarten and 1st Grade voted on their favorite title of the 4 books in our Unit.

Voting results as follows:

Fox in Socks-19
The Cat in the Hat-12
Green Eggs and Ham -41
Hop on Pop-6

Thank you Mrs. Katcher, Elementary Media for all of your hard work and dedication throughout the year, and especially during Dr. Seuss' Birthday week celebration. The kids have a fantastic time learning all about Dr. Seuss with all of your special touches.



Classroom News by Mrs. Jordan Smalley, TAG & Reading Recovery

Academic acceleration is one of the cornerstones of gifted education practices, with more research supporting this intervention than any other intervention for gifted individuals. It is a formal process of a student skipping a grade level in either one subject area or all subject areas. The acceleration process involves multiple data collection, cognitive and above grade-level achievement testing, and review of academic, developmental, and social-emotional data.

Acceleration is an option for any student who demonstrates readiness and whose needs cannot be met within available grade level options. This accelerated coursework is a better match for the student's abilities.

The benefits of a rigorous course load are well-studied students. Students who take advanced courses are [more likely to graduate from high school](#), enroll in college, and earn an associates or bachelors degree in less time ([saving more money](#)). For students moving directly into careers or technical degrees, the skills learned in advanced classes (critical thinking, writing, problem solving, project-based work) are just as applicable and useful in the workplace.

There are many forms of accelerated learning we offer at Northwood-Kensett. We offer students the opportunity to move up a grade for an individual subject, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, online learning, compacted curriculum, and concurrent enrollment courses.

Acceleration works and has long-term beneficial effects for students both academically and socially. Accelerated students are more challenged and therefore more engaged in school. They tend to be more ambitious, earning graduate degrees at higher rates. Looking back, an overwhelming majority of accelerated students say acceleration was the right decision for them.

Nurse's Corner by Kaitlyn Bruns, RN

Elementary Parents:

Spring is right around the corner but that doesn't mean we are out of the woods yet. I still see cooler weather in the forecast which means students will still need to wear their coats, hats, and gloves. I have multiple students a day still coming in and asking if they can borrow gloves, hats, coats, etc. Please remind your child to bring all of their warm clothing to school until warmer temps are here to stay!

Bicycle Safety Day: On April 22nd, our local Worth County Sheriff's Department will be coming to talk to students in grades K-6th about bicycle safety. On this day, your children are allowed to ride their bikes to school, as there will be obstacle courses, and bicycle safety checks for all of our students that want to bring their bikes that day!

Middle School and High Schoolers:

We will again be hosting a **Sports Physical Clinic** at the High School for all students **FREE** of charge. A sports physical is required for all athletic participants and is valid for 1 year and one month after the issue date. We will be holding the clinic on 2 different days to accommodate schedules.

Below is the assigned date and time for your child. We have split them up by grade level. Please review these and have your student come at the correct time and date assigned to them/their grade.

Current 6th, 7th, and 8th graders:

Location: High School Gymnasium

When: Wednesday April 13th at 3:30 pm.

Current 9th, 10th and 11th graders:

Location: High School Gymnasium

When: Wednesday April 6th at 3:00pm.

If this assigned day doesn't work please let Mr. Reindl or myself know and we will get them in on a different day. Coaches have agreed to be cooperative in letting their athletes participate.

Students will be seen on a 1st come 1st serve basis. Last time the wait in line averaged about 30 minutes if students didn't arrive right on time, please remind them to not get discouraged and to not leave if the line is long! It might help to let them know that this service is FREE and benefits both them and you 😊 They don't have to go at an inopportune time and you save money; maybe the wait time could be spent doing homework!

A consent to treat form is required to be filled out in order for your student athlete to participate; this is found on the school's website under "Nurse", along with the physical form. We ask that you help your child fill out the health and family history section on the physical form. Copies of the treatment consent and blank physical forms can also be found in the High School office. **Have your child bring the consent and physical forms with them on the day of their clinic.** Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Reindl or myself with any questions.